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'BN ready to face even Dr M'

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BALIK PULAU: Barisan Nasional is prepared to face anyone from the Opposition, even if it plans to field Tun Dr Mahathir Mohamad, in the upcoming parliamentary by-election, said Umno Youth chief Khairy Jamaluddin.

Khairy said BN, especially Umno Youth, was in full preparation and its only concern was the coalition's readiness in facing the by-election.

"The opposition can field anyone it wants. For us, we are only concerned about our preparations," he said after launching the FitMalaysia programme in Balik Pulau yesterday.

"Actually we don't really care who they (opposition) propose as candidate, we are fully prepared," he added.

Khairy said the Umno youth election machinery was now in full gear for both

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the Kuala Kangsar and Sungai Besar parliamentary by elections.

"Our members now are being trained to work in both by-elections to attract younger voters and are working hard to ensure BN wins," he said.

The Kuala Kangsar by-election comes in the wake of the death of its incumbent MP Datuk Wan Mohammad Khair-il Anuar Wan Ahmad in a helicopter crash in Sebuyau, Sarawak on May 5.

Also killed in the crash was Plantation Industries and Commodities Deputy Minister Datuk Noriah Kasnon, who was the incumbent MP for Sungai Besar, Selangor.

The Election Commission has fixed June 18 for polls.

Khairy, who is also Youth and Sports Minister, said the FitMalaysia programme would continue to promote a healthy lifestyle among the public.

Seven named for Sg Besar seat